

Oct. 10, 1980

Dear Jim and Vickie,

Thank you both for your letters. I see you getting along very well, Vickie, and your classes sound just great. That's such a wonderful way to learn about the city, and feel right at home. You and Jim will probably be fluent in Italian by the time you get back. I was surprised to hear that Ginny could already be understood when talking Italian in Catania. It all sounds so exciting, and I will be anxious to hear about the Athens Marathon.

My life sounds pretty dull in comparison to yours! I've been running 2 miles every day now, and am really enjoying it. I really feel like a runner now that our weather has cooled off and I get strange looks running just in shorts and a

T-shirt. People have asked me if I'm cold, but of course I'm not. By the way, Vickie, I didn't see a Perrier Cherry Blossom T-shirt here, but both you and Jim left a T-shirt, yours was a white Seaside one, and Jim's ~~was~~ several people in a tub. I assumed you left them for me - so I'll be wearing them.

It's so nice with Diane in school full-time. She likes it, and comes home exhausted, rests, then runs outside to play with her friends. So, I have lots of time on my hands which I love! Surprisingly, though, I haven't been going out much yet. Instead I've been straightening out things around the house - drawers, picture albums etc. - things I've wanted in order for 6 years, but never had the time.

I'm also enjoying my Data Processing class 2 days a week during the day. I feel like I have joined the Marines, as the

class is held at Henderson Hall,  
military base, and practically  
everyone is in uniform. The  
instructor is a marine, and  
uses examples like - imagine  
you're shooting a round of artillery  
at a moving target - to explain a  
curve, and everyone nods their  
heads. It's a very pleasant atmosphere  
however, and everyone is so polite.

I'm been using our WOK a lot,  
and am having fried rice, and  
vegetables tonight. I'm so glad I  
learned how to use it. Your  
meals in Italy sounded so good,  
Jim.

Well, I better start dinner.  
I can't remember which race these  
pictures are from - maybe you know.

Love,  
Mary